

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1131
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
SOCIAL AUDIT OF NREGS
Jindal Shri Naveen;Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether social audit of projects under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) has been conducted regularly in each State;
- (b) if so , the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;
- (c) the main findings of the social audit done so far;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to plug the loop-holes;
- (e) whether the Government has received requests from the State Governments for the involvement of NGOs and individuals for the social audit of projects under the said scheme;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a)&(b): Section 17(2) of NREG Act provides that the Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audit of all the projects taken up with the Gram Panchayat. The State Governments have been asked to complete social audit of all the projects within three months. Social audit has so far been done for 39671 projects.

(c) &(d): As per reports received the following issues have been highlighted:

- (i) Participation of women in large numbers
- (ii) Increasing awareness among wage earners of wage rates and need for timely payment of wages
- (iii) Need for strengthening capacity to meet demand for employment through additional staffing at Gram Panchayat level.
- (iv) Need to improve maintenance of muster rolls and job cards
- (v) Worksite facilities need to be made available

States have been advised by the Ministry to take necessary action.

(e) &(f): No, Sir. State Governments are competent to conduct social audits and if needed engage NGOs at their level. Government has not received requests from any State Government for involvement of NGOs and individuals for the social audit of projects.

(g): Question does not arise.